

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CCO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-05 /081 W

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R 171505Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6885

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 9994

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, PINT, GR, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH INTERPRETATION OF REPORTED CHANGES IN GREEK

MFA

REF: ANKARA 7116, B. ATHENS 7880 (NOTAL)

1. REF B REPORTED CERTAIN IMPENDING CHANGES IN THE GREEK FOREIGN SERVICE, MANY OF WHICH HAVE SINCE BEEN ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY AND SOME ACTUALLY IMPLEMENTED. AS WE NOTED IN REF B, THESE VARIOUS TRANSFERS AND CHANGES OF ASSIGNMENT WERE NOT UNEXPECTED, MANY OF THEM WERE LONG OVERDUE, AND, IN ANY CASE, DO NOT SIGNIFY ANY POLICY CHANGES.

2. THE SPECULATION IN THE TURKISH PRESS (REF A) THAT "IMPORTANT CHANGES" WERE ABOUT TO OCCUR IN THE GREEK MFA AS A RESULT OF "GREEK SETBACKS ON THE AEGEAN ISSUE AT THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE" MAY BE RELATED OR HAVE BEEN STIMULATED BY THE ABOVE. IN ANY CASE, WE HAVE NO INFORMATION SUGGESTING THAT EITHER AMBASSADOR CARAYANNIS (DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS, AND NOT MFA SECRETARY GENERAL --- THE LATTER IS A NEW POSITION WHICH WAS CREATED RECENTLY AND WHOSE FIRST INCOMBENT BEGINNING

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SOME TIME IN OCTOBER WILL BE AMBASSADOR THEODOROPOULOS, GREED

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO NATO) OR DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR
POLITICAL AFFAIRS TZOUNIS IS IN THE GOD HOUSE. TO THE CONTRARY
BOTH ARE KNOWN TO BE AMONG THE MOST ABLE OF GREECE'S DIPLOMATIC
OFFICERS AND BOTH ENJOY THE CONFIDENCE OF PRIME MINISTER
CARAMANLIS.

3. THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN THE CASE OF AMBASSADOR
TZOUNIS. HE HAS BEEN WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH AMBASSADOR
MOLYVIATIS, DIRECTOR OF THE PM'S POLITICAL OFFICE, ON THE
AEGEAN DISPUTE AND OTHER IMPORTANT FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES.
ALTHOUGH WE HAVE HEARD A RUMOR THAT TZOUNIS MAY BE NAMED
AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, WHICH CAN HARDLY BE CONSIDERED
A DEMOTION OR PUNISHMENT, WE HAVE NO FIRM INDICATION THAT
TZOUNIS IN FACT IS ABOUT TO BE REASSIGNED.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, PRESS COMMENTS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ATHENS09994
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760353-0890
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760951/aaaabrdd.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ANKARA 7116, 76 ATHENS 7880
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH INTERPRETATION OF REPORTED CHANGES IN GREEK MFA
TAGS: PINR, PINT, GR, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006